



Request for Qualifications Galvanizing Arts Project - Lighting Renton

INTRODUCTION

The Renton Galvanizing Arts Project (GAP), a committee of the Renton Municipal Arts Commission (RMAC), seeks to commission the creation of a lighting art project for the City of Renton.

BACKGROUND

On August 9, 2010, Renton's Arts and Culture Master Plan was adopted by the City Council. The City of Renton initiated a community effort to create this plan because City leaders recognized that the arts are an important component in economic and community development, as well as an important part of providing residents, employees and visitors with a vibrant quality of life.

The over-arching goal of the City for this master plan was to develop and secure broad community ownership in a vision for arts and culture in Renton.

The Arts and Culture Master Plan has five (5) essential strategies to move Renton's arts and culture vision forward. They are:

- Undertake activities to build awareness among all people about all aspects of the arts and increase connections among existing groups and supporters.
- *Capture the community's imagination with a galvanizing (arts) project.*
- Work with City elected leaders and staff to advocate for policies that support the arts and creative businesses – ranging from economic development, to parks, transportation and other services.
- Ensure the continuation of live performing arts in Renton by developing sustainable operating models for the Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center, Carco Theatre, and Renton Civic Theatre.
- Investigate the feasibility of creating an arts center gathering space for visual arts, classes, and studios.

The Galvanizing Arts Project (GAP) Committee began working together in mid-2011 and brainstormed project ideas and established selection criteria for a "galvanizing art project."

The GAP Committee established that the purpose of a Galvanizing Arts Project must:

- Capture the community's imagination
- Bring the community together to strengthen arts in Renton
- Showcase the vitality of Renton's arts community

Brainstormed ideas were narrowed down to 5. At Renton's 2012 Spring Equinox Arts event, "lighting" emerged as the favorite theme among the event participants. The GAP Committee concurred and created a presentation to be used to campaign, solicit supporters, fundraise, and market this project.

ELIGIBILITY

Minimum requirements are as follows:

- Have artistic outdoor lighting design experience of significant size, scale, and dimension (3D)
- Have knowledge of the latest in lighting technology and energy efficient materials to ensure durability, maintainability, and efficiency
- Have project management experience
- Have the ability to provide construction cost estimates
- Have the ability to provide recurring maintenance cost estimates
- Have prior public artwork experience
- Have the knowledge to meet all codes and regulations
- Be capable of working closely with the GAP Committee, the Renton Municipal Arts Commission, and the City
- Be capable of working with the community in a cooperative and collaborative manner

SCOPE OF WORK

The Lighting Renton Public Art Project will be implemented in two phases. Phase I will include the development of concept proposals for lighting projects. This phase will include:

- With the GAP Committee, explore opportunities and locations for artwork
- Develop at least 2 conceptual lighting designs per location. From these, 2-3 will be selected and used by the GAP Committee and RMAC to gather community input
- Develop estimated budgets for the concepts selected
- Work with City of Renton departments and all agencies to ensure all installations are permitted under their rules and regulations
- With the GAP Committee, present final design selection to the Renton City Council

The details of Phase II of this project will be determined by the selection of the concept. The following list includes the anticipated roles of the artist or artist team selected and will be adjusted as necessary:

- Act as a Project Manager through completion of the project
- Produce final design documents
- Prepare and present total cost estimates for each conceptual design with line items breakouts for each major component – material, installation, permitting, etc
- Prepare and present estimated recurring maintenance cost to ensure cost sustainability (budget forecasting)
- Ensure construction is performed by a reputable, licensed firm or if an in-house team of qualified craftspeople is used, please attach their qualifications
- Work with affected community neighborhoods to ensure acceptance of lighting artwork
- Have fun in creating something with a “WOW” factor for the Renton community

BUDGET

Phase I of this project is to develop the concept for a lighting project in Renton. Phase II is to create design documents and install the artwork. The budget for Phase I will be \$5,000 - \$7,500. The budget allocated for the entire project will be determined by the concepts developed and fundraising, but is anticipated to be approximately \$75,000.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Friday, October 12, 2012, 4:00 pm (Pacific Time)

PROPOSAL APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Proposal (not to exceed 2,000 characters): Please write a statement about your approach to making the art and its relevancy to the project. Your contact information, including e-mail, should be included in this letter.
2. Résumé.
3. Three (3) references: Names, phone numbers and email addresses of three references who can speak to your experience as an artistic lighting designer and installer.
4. Work samples: Submit at least 10 images. Each should include the following information: title, date, media and short description. If submitting a portion of a larger work, please identify the context in the description. If multiple discs are submitted, please provide instructions on the order in which the samples should be played. Titles in the work sample description should correspond to labels on the discs submitted.

Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope: Applicants who want their work samples returned by mail must include a self-addressed envelope with adequate postage. Applicants may also pick up work samples at the Renton City Hall after receiving notification of the application results. Work samples without postage will be discarded 60 days after the notice of funding is sent. Every effort will be made to ensure safe handling of work samples, but the city of Renton cannot assume responsibility for loss or damage.

Mail or hand-deliver to:

Renton Municipal Arts Commission
Lighting Renton Public Art Project
Community & Economic Development
Renton City Hall
1055 S Grady Way, 6th Floor
Renton, WA 98057

SELECTION CRITERIA

The artist or artist team will be selected on the basis of the following criteria: strengths in creative lighting and merit of past works, experience and approach as evidenced in the written materials, and ability to complete a project of this nature on time and within budget. It is important to state that the City of Renton is committed to reflecting the diversity and cultural richness of our city. References provided as part of this application will be contacted prior to finalist interviews.

SELECTION PROCESS

The selection process will occur in two phases: 1) A selection panel will review all applications and select finalist(s) or finalist team(s). 2) The selection panel may meet a second time to interview finalists/finalist teams and select one artist or artist team for the project.

TIMELINE

Applications are due October 12, 2012 by 4:00 pm. If necessary, finalist interviews for this project will take place in November 2012. The selected artist or artist team must be available to work on this project by December and develop concepts to present in the first quarter of 2013.

NOTIFICATION OF RESULTS

The selected artist or artist team will be notified at the conclusion of interviews and panel deliberations. Applicants will receive notification of the panel's decision by e-mail. The City of Renton reserves the right not to select any of the applicants.

QUESTIONS

Please contact Jennifer Davis Hayes, Community Development Project Manager, at jdavishayes@rentonwa.gov or 425-430-6589.